# Whom The Lord Loveth

DELAMERE

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# WHOM THE LORD LOVETH

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## CONSOLING THOUGHTS FOR EVERY DAY IN THE YEAR

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TO OUR DEAR MOTHER

AT THE FOOT OF THE CROSS I
DEDICATE THIS LITTLE BOOK,
BEGGING HER TO GRANT
THAT IT MAY HELP SOME
POOR SUFFERING HEARTS
AND TEACH THEM TO
OBTAIN THE FULL MERIT
OF THEIR CROSSES BY
UNITING THEM LOV-
INGLY TO THE
SACRIFICE
OF HER
DIVINE
SON

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# WHOM THE LORD LOVETH

# JANUARY

## *FIRST*

COME to me, all you that labor and are heavy burdened, and I will refresh you.

*Matt.* 11:28

## *SECOND*

O my Lord! How true it is that he who shall render you a service is immediately rewarded by a great cross. And what a priceless reward it is, if they who truly love Thee only knew the value of it at the time.

*St. Teresa*

## *THIRD*

If we are well with God all is well with us, though the thickest darkness of adversity be round about us. If we

are not well with Him, nothing is well with us, though the best and brightest be at our feet.

*Father Faber*

*FOURTH*

The only way to sanctity is the way of suffering.

*St. Alphonsus Liguori*

*FIFTH*

Do not fear the Cross. . . . Without it you cannot find Christ. With it you will find the help and consolation of His open Heart. Without Christ the cross is hard, dead, crushing wood. With Christ the Cross is strong as God, sweet as love, tender as a tear.

*Father Kane, S.J.*

*SIXTH*

How can I be mistrustful or even anxious? My lots are in Thy Hands.

*Mother M. Loyola*

*SEVENTH*

Jesus is the one Friend who alone remains to us when all else forsakes us.

*Père Lacordaire, O.P.*

*EIGHTH*

Do not forecast or alarm yourself. Not half the things you look for will ever come to pass and the other half will be light to bear and God will bear both you and your crosses together.

*Cardinal Manning*

*NINTH*

As the ring is the sign of marriage so is adversity, both corporal and spiritual, patiently borne for the love of God a most true pledge of Divine election and is like the marriage of the soul with God.

*St. Gertrude*

*TENTH*

Help me, oh, my God, and I will not fear how much soever I may be oppressed.

*Imitation*

*ELEVENTH*

Thorns give forth balm, and the Cross sweetness, but we must squeeze the thorns and press the Cross to our hearts to make them distil the fragrance which is within them.

*Curé d'Ars*

*TWELFTH*

Every sorrow which separates us from this world brings us nearer to God.

*Mgr. Henry Bolo*

*THIRTEENTH*

Think often of eternity and remember that the humblest, the poorest, the most despised on earth will be the most glorified in Heaven.

*St. John of the Cross*

*FOURTEENTH*

The great characteristic of sanctity is love of suffering, as its peculiar seal is spiritual joy; one produces the other.

*Père de Ravignan*

*FIFTEENTH*

As soon as any affliction befalls you, say, "O God! how good you are to help me and enrich me for heaven; I should not like when death comes to be quite without some little merit to offer you."

*St. Francis de Sales*

*SIXTEENTH*

The greater is our suffering and the less it is known to others, the more it makes Thee smile, O my God!

*Sœur Thérèse*

*SEVENTEENTH*

So tired! so tired!
A cry of half despair;
Look! at your side —
And see Who standeth there!

Your Father! Hush!
A heart beats in His breast
Now rise and rush
Within His arms — and rest.

*Father Ryan*

*EIGHTEENTH*

The more we fear crosses the more reason we have to think we stand in need of them. Let us not therefore be dejected when the hand of God layeth heavy ones upon us.

*Fénelon*

*NINETEENTH*

I do not ask, O Lord, that life may be
A pleasant road;
I do not ask that Thou wouldst take from me
Aught of its load.

. . . . . .

I do not ask my cross to understand,
My way to see;
Better in darkness just to feel Thy hand,
And follow Thee.

*Adelaide Procter*

*TWENTIETH*

O Jesus! Thou hast suffered so much for me, let me therefore suffer for Thee!

*St. Aloysius*

*TWENTY-FIRST*

We should thank God not only for the temporal favors that He vouchsafes to send us, but even for the afflictions and humiliations with which He visits us. We should bless Him, not only when as a Father He fondles us, but also when as a physician He holds to our lips the cup of sorrow and tribulation. We should kiss the hand that strikes, as well as the hand that caresses us; for whether He smiles or caresses, He is always our Father.

*Cardinal Gibbons*

*TWENTY-SECOND*

There is nothing to do here but lovingly to endure all that God sends us; blindly to accept in advance all that it may please Him to send in future.

*Father Ramière, S.J.*

*TWENTY-THIRD*

What is resignation? It is placing God between ourselves and pain.

*Madame Swetchine*

*TWENTY–FOURTH*

Look up towards Christ and stretch yourself out, defenceless, upon the Cross on which He died and on which you must sacrifice yourself with Him.

*Père Didon, O.P.*

*TWENTY–FIFTH*

But if doing well, you suffer patiently this is thanksworthy before God. For unto this are you called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving you an example that you should follow His steps.

*Saint Peter*

*TWENTY–SIXTH*

One of the things that strikes me is the immense amount of spiritual funds thrown away in the world by people not making good use of the daily trials and worries of this life.

*Mother Henrietta Kerr*

*TWENTY–SEVENTH*

My God! I believe so firmly that Thou watchest over all who hope in Thee and

that we can want for nothing when we rely upon Thee in all things, that I am resolved for the future to have no anxieties, and to cast all my cares upon Thee.

*Father de la Colombière*

*TWENTY-EIGHTH*

I try my best to carry without much complaining and in a practical way, for my poor soul's sanctification, the long foreseen miseries of the disease, which, after all, is a providential agent to detach the heart from all earthly affection and prompts much the desire of a Christian soul to be united — the sooner the better — with Him who is her only life.

*Father Damien (in one of his last letters)*

*TWENTY-NINTH*

Let us never ask of God precisely our own ease by delivery from our tribulation, but pray for his aid and comfort by which ways Himself shall best like.

*Blessed Thomas More*

*THIRTIETH*

O my Jesus, give me to understand how full of Thy love is every day of my life. How every breath that buffets me, every creature that hurts me, every pang that troubles me, is only a messenger of Thine to make me lift my heart up out of the mists of worldly existence to Thee who art my all.

*Bishop Hedley*

*THIRTY–FIRST*

Welcome then Time's threshing pain,
And the furrows where each grain
Like a Samson, blossom shorn
Waits the resurrection morn.

*Father Tabb*

# FEBRUARY

*FIRST*

ARE not five sparrows sold for two farthings, and not one of them is forgotten before God. Yea the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not therefore, you are of more value than many sparrows.

*Luke* 12: 6, 7

*SECOND*

It is God alone that your heart needs. Do not seek for compensation in the affection of creatures.

*Venerable Mother Barat*

*THIRD*

Let all thy care be to possess thy soul in peace and tranquillity. Let no accident be to thee a cause of ill humor.

*St. Vincent Ferrer*

*FOURTH*

O my God, I know not what must come to me to-day; but I am certain that nothing can happen to me which Thou hast not foreseen, decreed and ordained from all eternity; this is sufficient for me.

*Venerable Giuseppe Maria Pignatelli*

*FIFTH*

Patience, abnegation, the ready acceptance of the Cross, are the great lessons the Son of God sets before us. Those who learn them well and imprint them upon their hearts belong to the first class in the school of Jesus Crucified.

*St. Vincent de Paul*

*SIXTH*

Death may shatter many joys, many projects, many hopes; it cannot sever the bonds which unite an immortal soul to the souls it loves immortally.

*Abbé Perreyve*

*SEVENTH*

Why remain thus sad and inactive? Why wear thyself out in the anguish of sadness? Be brave, arise, do violence to thyself, meditate on the Passion of Christ and thou wilt overcome thy grief.

*Blessed Henry Suso*

*EIGHTH*

Nothing matters in this world, except the doing of God's will.

*Mgr. Robert Hugh Benson*

*NINTH*

Dearest of Masters! and we go to Him and then and not before and there and not elsewhere we are at rest for His bosom is the weary man's own house, his very own delightful home.

*Father Faber*

*TENTH*

Lord Jesus, to Thee I confide my sorrows and I wish to bear them for Thy

sake. My fears I cast into Thy Heart, my anxieties I abandon to Thee. Thou wilt look after them.

*Father Xavier Gautrelet, S.J.*

*ELEVENTH*

If you wish to be a disciple of Jesus Christ you must live in suffering for "the servant is not greater than his Master."

*Venerable J. Tauler*

*TWELFTH*

Troubles and trials God never allows but with such previous aim and actual ordering as makes them, when we bear them as we ought, bud in joy and ripen into happy harvest.

*Father Kane, S.J.*

*THIRTEENTH*

One more sacrifice is asked of us; but does not our Lord prove those He loves so as to make them more worthy

of Himself? A cross is given to us — Let us embrace it generously and thank Him.

*Blessed Théophane Vénard*

*FOURTEENTH*

Love Jesus and keep Him for thy friend
Who, when all go away will not leave
thee or suffer thee to perish in the end.

*Imitation*

*FIFTEENTH*

It is not God's way that great blessings should descend without the sacrifice first of great suffering.

*Cardinal Newman*

*SIXTEENTH*

We rejoice not only in the hope of the glory of the sons of God, but we glory also in tribulations, knowing that tribulation worketh patience, and patience trial, and trial hope, and hope confoundeth not, for the charity of God is poured forth in our hearts by the Holy Ghost who is given us.

*St. Paul, Romans*

*SEVENTEENTH*

"All which I took from thee I did but take,
Not for thy harms,
But just that thou might'st seek it in My arms.
All which thy child's mistake
Fancies as lost, I have stored for thee at home:
Rise, clasp my Hand, and come!"

*Francis Thompson*

*EIGHTEENTH*

When we feel us too faint, remember Christ's strength. In our fear, let us remember Christ's painful agony that Himself would (for our comfort) suffer before His passion, to the intent that no fear should make us despair.

*Blessed Thomas More*

*NINETEENTH*

What is death? It is but the leap of a child springing into his Father's arms.

*Father Tesnieres, SSS., D.D.*

*TWENTIETH*

Learn to suffer and to be silent if you wish to live in peace and to attain to great virtue.

*St. John of the Cross*

*TWENTY–FIRST*

As the priest reverently, devoutly, and lovingly gathers up from the paten the tiniest particles of the Host, so should you gather up all the thorns, the trials and the sufferings you meet on your way, to put them in the chalice of love along with the Precious Blood of the Saviour.

*Father Brisson*

*TWENTY–SECOND*

The more we complain of our trials the heavier our burden grows; if on the contrary we humbly and lovingly bear them, the burden becomes light and agreeable.

*Blessed Egidius of Assisi*

*TWENTY–THIRD*

If God gives you an abundant harvest of trials, it is a sign of the great holiness to which He desires you to attain.

*St. Ignatius*

*TWENTY–FOURTH*

Do not look at life's long sorrow;
See how small each moment's pain;
God will help thee for the morrow
So each day begin again.

*Adelaide Procter*

*TWENTY–FIFTH*

Jesus wishes to take entire possession of your heart; in order to do this He will make you suffer much . . . but then, what joy will flood your soul when you will have arrived at the happy moment of your entrance into Heaven!

*Sœur Thérèse*

*TWENTY-SIXTH*

It is a great imperfection to complain unceasingly of little things.

*St. Francis de Sales*

*TWENTY-SEVENTH*

Seek not for consolation but for the Cross, seek for work and not for rest, for bitterness rather than joy, for the least and not the most, for the worst and not the best, for poverty and not the possession of anything whatever.

*St. John of the Cross*

*TWENTY-EIGHTH*

Internal peace resides, not in the senses but in the will. One keeps it in the midst of the bitterest sorrow so long as one's will remains firm and submissive.

*Fénelon*

*TWENTY–NINTH*

The most certain way of obtaining any grace from God is holy indifference and a complete resignation to His most Holy Will.

*St. Joseph of Cupertino*

# MARCH

*FIRST*

THEN He saith to them: "My soul is sorrowful even unto death; stay you here and watch with me." And going a little farther He fell upon His face, praying, and saying: "My Father, if it be possible, let this chalice pass from me; nevertheless not as I will, but as Thou wilt."

*Matt.* 26: 38, 39

*SECOND*

O my Creator, my eternal love, O my Father, my heavenly Father. Weary yet full of trust, worthless but truly loving Thee, my love and my rest are still in Thy Fidelity.

*Father Faber*

*THIRD*

The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart,
And saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.
Many are the afflictions of the righteous,
But the Lord delivereth him out of them all.

*Psalm xxxiv*

*FOURTH*

The sufferings of this life bear no proportion to the greatness of the glory to come.

*Imitation*

*FIFTH*

Trust and you will learn. Learn and you will love. Trust! with the conflict will come the courage. With the difficulty will come the help. With the trial will come the strength. With the temptation will come the grace.

*Father Kane, S.J.*

*SIXTH*

Each suffering is a new flower added to the crown which is prepared for us in eternity.

*St. Alphonsus Liguori*

*SEVENTH*

Let this dear Jesus be your nearest and dearest friend. Confide your trials to Him. Take everything as coming from His fatherly hand.

*Mother Aloysia Hardy*

*EIGHTH*

Courage! Let us be generous in our sacrifices.

*Blessed Théophane Vénard*

*NINTH*

Be assured that you have entered into God's service only to be chiselled, polished and perfected each day by the hands of those with whom you live. Look upon them as so many individuals sent to you by God to sanctify you by training you, each one in his own way.

*St. John of the Cross*

*TENTH*

Think of the crosses with which Jesus has laden you, for they are treasures which He has drawn from the depths of His riches and you must look upon them as wonderful proofs of His love.

*Fénelon*

*ELEVENTH*

It matters little whether we are rich or poor, prosperous or unfortunate in the world, providing we are minting money for Heaven, by the practice of patience, resignation, honesty and the love of God.

*Cardinal Vaughan*

*TWELFTH*

Though it may happen that a mother should be so hardened as to forget her own child, yet God promises He will never forget us.

*Venerable J. Tauler*

*THIRTEENTH*

Let nothing disturb thee,
Let nothing affright thee;
All things are passing;
God only is changeless.
Patience gains all things.
Who hath God wanteth nothing —
Alone God sufficeth.

*St. Teresa*

*FOURTEENTH*

No good can be accomplished save by and with the Cross.

*Venerable Mother Barat*

*FIFTEENTH*

O my God be blest when you afflict me. I love to be crushed, consumed, destroyed by Thee. Annihilate me more and more.

*General de Sonis*

*SIXTEENTH*

If it happens that something grieves thee, no matter from what quarter it comes, be assured that while you love God, all will turn to your good.

*St. Francis de Sales*

*SEVENTEENTH*

Whom God wants to save, to that soul He sends suffering.

*Joseph Farrell*

*EIGHTEENTH*

The humiliations of the Cross are sweet to a soul which is sensible of what she owes to Him who was crucified for love of her.

*St. Bernard*

*NINETEENTH*

God, give me patience in tribulation and grace in everything to conform my will to Thine, that I may truly say, "Thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven."

*Blessed Thomas More*
(*after having been sentenced to death*)

*TWENTIETH*

The best of all prayers is that in which we ask that God's holy will be accomplished both in ourselves and others.

*Venerable Louis of Blois*

*TWENTY–FIRST*

The good God tells us that at the last day He will wipe all tears from our eyes; and doubtless the more tears there will be to wipe away, the greater will be our consolation.

*Sœur Thérèse*

*TWENTY–SECOND*

Oh how great a grace it is to love and to suffer, to love while suffering and to suffer while loving! Let us never lose one of our crosses, but let us often say to ourselves: Courage! the time of suffering is short, the love that suffering merits is eternal.

*Bossuet*

*TWENTY–THIRD*

O my Lord, may I receive in good part the strokes of Thy hand, and may I be content to see that Thou dost not spare

my body from pains, for it is a great mark that Thou hast some good design over me.

*St. Lidwina*

*TWENTY–FOURTH*

Divine Redeemer, make me to understand that afflictions here below are as flowers which promise to bear fruits of glory, and that our tears, like sacred oil, consecrate us to immortality.

*St. Gregory*

*TWENTY–FIFTH*

As we can sanctify bodily pain by the memory of the nails, so too can we sanctify spiritual pain by the memory of this darkness. (The dereliction of the Cross.)

*Mgr. Robert Hugh Benson*

*TWENTY–SIXTH*

The adversities and tribulations of life are special graces, and those most to be desired. God reserves them for His dearest friends. Receive them, then, as such with patience, constancy and joy.

*St. Joseph of Cupertino*

*TWENTY-SEVENTH*

What are afflictions, if righteously borne, but the raw material out of which we can weave the royal garment that we shall deserve to wear in heaven at the banquet of the great King.

*Cardinal Gibbons*

*TWENTY-EIGHTH*

Being only the servants of Jesus Christ we must not refuse to suffer for our Master what our Master has already suffered for us.

*St. Paulina*

*TWENTY-NINTH*

The flame of Divine love never rises higher than when it is fed with the wood of the Cross which the infinite charity of the Saviour uses to consummate His Sacrifice.

*St. Ignatius*

*THIRTIETH*

Raise, raise then your heart and your love a little towards the sweet and holy Cross which sweetens all pain.

*St. Catherine of Siena*

*THIRTY-FIRST*

Life is a burden; bear it;
Life is a duty, dare it;
Life is a thorn crown; wear it,
Though it break your heart in twain;
Though the burden crush you down;
Close your lips, and hide your pain,
First the Cross, and then, the Crown.

*Father Ryan*

# APRIL

## *FIRST*

OD shall wipe away all tears from our eyes, and death shall be no more, nor mourning, nor crying, nor sorrow shall be any more; for the former things are passed away.

*Apoc.* 21: 4

## *SECOND*

Raise your eyes and contemplate Jesus Christ on the Cross and you will see how trifling are all your sufferings.

*St. Teresa*

## *THIRD*

But if thou hast recourse to the ever-strong and subsisting Truth, thou shalt not be grieved when a friend departs

or dies. In Me the love of thy friend must stand; and for Me he is to be loved.

*Imitation, B. 3, Chap.* XLII

*FOURTH*

Suffering is useful in every way. Suffering teaches us to suffer, suffering teaches us to live, suffering teaches us to die.

*Madame Swetchine*

*FIFTH*

O Lord, I return Thee thanks for the pains which I suffer; I pray that Thou add to them a hundred times more if such be Thy holy will. I shall rejoice that Thou art pleased to afflict me, without sparing my carcass here, for what sweeter comfort can I have than that Thy holy will be done.

*St. Francis of Assisi*

*SIXTH*

Sufferings are the money with which one buys Heaven.

*Blessed Théophane Vénard*

*SEVENTH*

I own that life would be intolerable to me if I had nothing to suffer for Jesus Christ; it is my only comfort in this world.

*St. John Francis Regis*

*EIGHTH*

In all that crucifies your will and crosses your heart's desire; in all that against which men chafe and fret, and over which they lose their self control, you, when it befalls you, will say to yourselves: "I will gladly live and die under this Cross, if only I can be made like to the Sacred Heart of Jesus."

*Cardinal Manning*

*NINTH*

The Cross assures me of salvation, it is my refuge, my hope, and shall always be the object of my adoration. *O Crux Ave!*

*St. Thomas Aquinas*

*TENTH*

For ah! the surest way to God
Is up the lonely stream of tears,
That flow when bending 'neath His rod,
And fill the tide of earthly years.

*Father Ryan*

*ELEVENTH*

And now we see proven often, that in sore weather or sickness, by several processions God giveth gracious help. And many a man in his great pain and sickness, by calling upon God, is marvellously made whole.

*Blessed Thomas More*

*TWELFTH*

It is certain that no flower can bear fruit unless it dies; so a person will commence to bear fruit in Jesus Christ in proportion as he renounces himself, abandons himself, and dies to himself and to all things.

*Venerable John Tauler*

*THIRTEENTH*

When you have looked awhile upon that wide Wound through which burst forth with blood a love, divine as God, yet human as your own heart, I may whisper "Trust."

*Father Kane, S.J.*

*FOURTEENTH*

He who has really tasted of the true Cross can taste no bitterer pain, no keener joy.

*Cardinal Newman*

*FIFTEENTH*

Our refrain is the hymn of suffering. Jesus offers us a very bitter chalice, let us not draw our lips away from it, but suffer in peace. To suffer in peace it is sufficient to will all that our Lord wills.

*Sœur Thérèse*

*SIXTEENTH*

God sends us afflictions for several reasons; first, to increase our merits; second, to preserve in us the grace of

God; third, to punish us for our sins; fourth, to show forth His glory and His other attributes.

*St. Anthony of Padua*

*SEVENTEENTH*

Earthly sorrows are the roots of heavenly joys. A cross is a crown begun. Suffering is dearer to the saints than happiness, for the similitude of Christ has passed upon them.

*Father Faber*

*EIGHTEENTH*

All can feel the God that smites,
But ah! how few the God that loves!

*Francis Thompson*

*NINETEENTH*

I adore all the evils of this life as so many sacraments.

*St. Anselm*

*TWENTIETH*

In the narrow way to Heaven one suffers but one hopes, one suffers but one sees Heaven open, one suffers but one

desires to suffer, one loves God and one is beloved by Him.

*Fénelon*

*TWENTY–FIRST*

Jesus Saviour of the World spare us; You to whom nothing is impossible save that You should not have compassion on the sorrowful.

*St. Gertrude*

*TWENTY–SECOND*

My Lord and My Master, by Thy meekness extinguish the natural disturbance in my breast against those that injure me! By Thy lifting up of Thy Heart teach me how to make use of physical pain! By Thy silence help me to repress murmurs and complainings.

*Bishop Hedley*

*TWENTY–THIRD*

I can do all things in Christ who strengtheneth me.

*St. Paul, Philip.* 9 : 12

*TWENTY–FOURTH*

Nothing can supply the place of the Cross or do its work. Where it stays long, and is well received, it chastens, strengthens, ennobles. It gives a refinement, a spiritual perception, a depth, a maturity, not found in souls that have come but slightly under its discipline.

*Mother M. Loyola*

*TWENTY–FIFTH*

There is no wood more proper to enkindle and feed the fire of divine love than the wood of the Cross.

*St. Ignatius Loyola*

*TWENTY–SIXTH*

Indeed, God gives to the Catholic for every joy he renounces a thousandfold more; for every darkness a hundred dawns; for every human relationship that is sacrificed for Christ's sake, a

heavenly, instead; for "lands and houses" the whole earth which is His footstool; for every cross a crown.

*Mgr. Robert Hugh Benson*

*TWENTY-SEVENTH*

The time of afflictions and contradictions is the beautiful harvest time, when the soul gathers in the richest benedictions of heaven; one day then is more profitable than six at another time.

*St. Francis de Sales*

*TWENTY-EIGHTH*

When the soul seeks its consolation from God, He is always ready to give it to her.

*St. John of the Cross*

*TWENTY-NINTH*

Because Jesus was acquainted with grief, because He endured torments — to suffer as He suffered is a veritable joy to the soul filled with His holy love.

*Abbé A. Sandreau*

*THIRTIETH*

The Cross is the true and only ladder to Paradise; without the Cross this ascent is quite impossible.

*St. Rose of Lima*

# M A Y

## *FIRST*

WHEN Jesus therefore had seen his mother and the disciple standing whom he loved, he saith to his mother: Woman, behold thy son. After that, he saith to the disciple: Behold thy mother.

*John* 19 : 26, 27

## *SECOND*

In dangers and afflictions think of Mary, pray to Mary; let her name be ever on thy lips and in thy heart; but to obtain the help of her prayers imitate the example of her life.

*St. Bernard*

## *THIRD*

Ah, Mary, who comforteth everyone, deign also to comfort me!

*St. Alphonsus Liguori*

*FOURTH*

Jesus knows the extent of your immolation. He knows that the suffering of those you love increases your own; but He Himself has suffered this same martyrdom to save our souls. He left His Mother, He saw that Immaculate Virgin standing at the foot of the Cross, her heart transfixed by a sword of sorrow.

*Sœur Thérèse*

*FIFTH*

Mary, see my heart is burdened,
Take, oh take the weight away,
Or help me, that I may not murmur
If it is a cross you lay
On my weak and trembling heart.

*Adelaide Procter*

*SIXTH*

Like Mary we must be loving, sweet and patient with those who cause us any unhappiness, and laying our head with unrestrained and unashamed tears on our Lord's bosom, let us think quietly of God and Heaven.

*Father Faber*

*SEVENTH*

O afflicted Virgin! O soul great in virtues as in suffering! O, my Mother, have mercy on me!

*St. Alphonsus Liguori*

*EIGHTH*

It is Mary who upholds us in our sufferings; she fights for us and makes us partake of the fruit of her victories.

*St. Bonaventure*

*NINTH*

Holy Virgin, in the midst of thy days of glory, do not forget the sorrows of earth. Cast a loving glance on those who are in suffering, who struggle against difficulties and cease not to press their lips to the bitterness of life.

*Abbé Perreyve*

*TENTH*

O Mary, harbinger of day! O hope of the pilgrim! lead us still as thou hast led; in the dark night, across the bleak wilderness, guide us on to our Lord Jesus, guide us home.

*Cardinal Newman*

*ELEVENTH*

If we would but throw ourselves more upon Mary than we do, with the whole weight of love, with the whole weight of our necessities. She is loving each one of us at this moment with a surprising love. No friend, no parent, no saint, no angel has ever been to us what she has been.

*Father Faber*

*TWELFTH*

As much as the sun surpasses in splendor all the planets does Mary surpass in sufferings all the other martyrs.

*St. Basil*

*THIRTEENTH*

If the winds of temptation arise, look at your star, invoke Mary; if the greatness of your crimes troubles you, think of Mary.

*St. Bernard*

*FOURTEENTH*

O Mother of Sorrows, Queen of martyrs and of sufferings, thou hast so wept for thy Son dead for my salvation; but of

what use will thy tears be to me if I am lost eternally? By the merits of thy sorrows obtain for me true repentance for my sins and a real change of life.

*St. Alphonsus Liguori*

*FIFTEENTH*

Understand what must be the joy and glory of Mary in the celestial Home when even in this valley of tears and sojourn of sorrows, the very remembrance of her name makes one taste such sweet joy and pure delight. *St. Bernardine of Siena*

*SIXTEENTH*

The Passion of Mary

Yet Christian sadness is divine
Even as thy patient sadness was:
The salt tears in our life's dark wine
Fell in it from the saving Cross.

Bitter the bread of our repast;
Yet doth a sweet the bitter leaven
Our sorrow in the shadow cast
Around it by the light of Heaven.

*Francis Thompson*

*SEVENTEENTH*

Holy Mary, do not refuse your help to those in sorrow, uphold the courage of the weak and console those who are afflicted: pray for the whole people so that all those who have recourse to thee in their needs may feel the effects of thy all powerful protection.

*St. Augustine*

*EIGHTEENTH*

Bear this in mind; it was because of his mother, "being moved with mercy towards her" that Jesus raised the dead man at the gate of Nain. Be careful when you desire any great favor, to implore the intercession of *your mother*, of Mary.

*Father Dignam, S.J.*

*NINETEENTH*

O Lady Mary, thy bright crown
Is no mere crown of majesty;
For with the reflex of His own
Resplendent thorns Christ circled thee.

*Francis Thompson*

*TWENTIETH*

O blessed confidence! O safe refuge! The Mother of God is our Mother; the Mother of Him in whom we hope, and whom alone we fear, is our Mother; the Mother of Him, who alone can save or destroy is our Mother. *St. Anselm*

*TWENTY–FIRST*

O my sovereign Mistress who hath received such cruel wounds upon Calvary, wound our hearts, renew in them thy dolorous Passion and that of thy divine Son, unite our hearts to thy wounded heart that they may participate in the same wounds. *St. Bonaventure*

*TWENTY–SECOND*

Most holy Mary, My Lady . . . all my hope and consolation, all my trials and miseries, my life and the end of my life I commit to thee, that through thy most holy intercession and by thy merits all my actions may be directed and ordered according to thy will and that of thy divine Son. *St. Aloysius*

*TWENTY-THIRD*

Though Mother of God and Queen of Heaven, she remembers that she is my Mother, and thinks it the simplest thing in the world to succour me in my need.

*Mother M. Loyola*

*TWENTY-FOURTH*

Sweet blessed beads! I would not part
With one of you for richest gem

. . . . . .

For many and many a time in grief
My weary fingers wandered round
Thy circled chain, and always found
In some Hail Mary, sweet relief.

*Father Ryan*

*TWENTY-FIFTH*

It is certainly Mary who after Jesus has more solicitude, more tenderness, more charity, more love and more goodness for us than any other. It is she who upholds us in our troubles! she fights for us and afterwards makes us enjoy the fruit of her victories.

*St. Bonaventure*

*TWENTY-SIXTH*

Ask for great favors and for all graces in the name of Christ's Mother; remind Our Lord of her agony, when, her soul pierced with a sword of sorrow, she stood at the foot of the cross. *Father Dignam, S.J.*

*TWENTY-SEVENTH*

O my beloved Jesus! O Mary, my beloved Lady! give me the grace to suffer and to die for love of you.

*St. Alphonsus Liguori*

*TWENTY-EIGHTH*

The Queen of Virgins is Mother of Mercy also and comfortress of the afflicted and though her whole life was a hidden life . . . she knew how to wed action to contemplation and displayed no impotent or sterile sympathy for even the temporal wants of her brethren — going in haste over the mountains of Judea to help the mother of the Precursor, and whispering to her Divine Son at the marriage feast "They have no wine."

*Father Russell, S.J.*

*TWENTY-NINTH*

Therefore O tender Lady, Queen Mary,
Thou gentleness that dost enmoss and drape
The Cross's rigorous austerity,
Wipe thou the blood from wounds that needs must gape.

*Francis Thompson*

*THIRTIETH*

Most holy Virgin obtain for me the grace of invoking the name of thy Son Jesus in all my necessities, together with thine own, my Mother Mary; but let me invoke them always with confidence and love.

*St. Alphonsus Liguori*

*THIRTY-FIRST*

His compassion restored to the widow of Naim the son for whom she wept. Who can tell if Jesus, seeing this woman in tears, did not think of His own mother, likewise a widow, who was to become the Queen of Martyrs for weeping over the death of the most adorable of Sons.

*Mgr. Henry Bolo*

# JUNE

*FIRST*

TAKE up my yoke upon you, and learn of me, because I am meek and humble of heart: and you shall find rest in your souls. For my yoke is sweet, and my burden light.

*Matt.* 11 : 29, 30

*SECOND*

In all your sufferings unite your heart to the Heart of Jesus Crucified.

*Blessed Margaret Mary*

*THIRD*

We who murmur and repine and fret all day long if anything goes against us, call ourselves disciples of the Sacred Heart, and yet we have not the will to bear the Cross, much less to love it.

*Cardinal Manning*

*FOURTH*

One can never have too great a confidence in God who is so powerful and so merciful. One can obtain all one hopes from Him.

*Sœur Thérèse*

*FIFTH*

Even though pain or trial or the loss of those you love appears to circle you with night and tempest, His Heart's love watches and waits and will bring you in God's own way and in God's own time a great calm.

*Father Kane, S.J.*

*SIXTH*

My Jesus! may I die for love of Thee, who didst vouchsafe to die for love of me.

*St. Francis of Assisi*

*SEVENTH*

The oftener we have given up our own will during the day, the nearer we are in the evening to the Heart of Jesus.

*Venerable Mother Barat*

*EIGHTH*

True abandonment which makes God look upon us with love, consists in leaving the past to His ever merciful justice, and in confiding the future to His fatherly Providence.

*Father Surin, S.J.*

*NINTH*

If we would give full pleasure to the Heart of God, we must endeavor to conform ourselves to His divine will, and not only conform ourselves but make ourselves one with His appointments.

*St. Alphonsus Liguori*

*TENTH*

Let us draw from our Crosses, fountains of love, comfort and confidence.

*Fénelon*

*ELEVENTH*

When any pain, affliction or mortification shall befall you, say to yourself: "Take what the Sacred Heart sends thee to unite thee to Himself" and endeavor specially to preserve that peace of heart

which is worth more than all imaginable treasures and which is preserved by having no longer any will of your own.

*Blessed Margaret Mary*

*TWELFTH*

But they that love Jesus for Jesus' sake and not for any comfort of their own, bless Him no less in tribulation and anguish of heart than in the greatest consolation.

*Imitation, B. 2, Chap.* XI

*THIRTEENTH*

Blessed is he who suffers temptation for when he shall have borne this trial he shall receive the crown of life.

*St. James*

*FOURTEENTH*

Lord, take my pain, my willing acceptance of the Cross that weighs upon me now, as proof of my love. By the tenderness of Thy Heart, by thy tears over the

grave of Lazarus, draw me closer to Thee by this trial and by every trial of my life.

*Mother M. Loyola*

*FIFTEENTH*

One thing alone I know, — that according to our need, so will be our strength. . . . We shall not be left orphans; we shall have within us the strength the Paraclete promised to the Church and to every member of it.

*Cardinal Newman*

*SIXTEENTH*

God sendeth us also such tribulation sometimes, because His pleasure is to have us pray unto Him for help.

*Blessed Thomas More*

*SEVENTEENTH*

Now at this very moment He loves us both with the infinite pity of His Godhead and with the kind sympathy of His human Heart. . . . He has a human

Heart, for He wept. It is the Heart which His Virgin Mother gave to Him, and which He hath given to us to be our help, our consolation and our love.

*Father Kane, S.J.*

*EIGHTEENTH*

Beg for the courage in prayer which our agonizing Saviour merited for you in His sufferings in Gethsemane and upon Calvary. Pray, for prayer is the strength that saves, the courage which perseveres, the mystic bridge cast over the abyss which joins the soul with God.

*Father Ravignan, S.J.*

*NINETEENTH*

Within Thy Saviour's Heart
Place all thy care,
And learn, O weary soul,
Thy rest is there.

*Adelaide Procter*

*TWENTIETH*

We are told that Jesus wept at the tomb of Lazarus. Jesus wept to show that He had not only a divine Personality, but

also a human Heart, full of human sympathy for the suffering and sorrowing, that He came to sanctify sorrow and to be the great consoler of the disconsolate.

*Cardinal Gibbons*

*TWENTY-FIRST*

There is nothing sweeter than to love God, but the greatest sign of love is to suffer for what one loves: to suffer for God is therefore true joy, it is supreme felicity.

*St. Ignatius*

*TWENTY-SECOND*

The more consolation from creatures the less from God. This is the invariable rule. God is shy. He loves to come to lonely hearts which other loves do not fill. This is why bereaved hearts, outraged hearts, hearts misunderstood, hearts that have broken with kith and kin, and natal place, and the grave of father and mother, are the hearts of His predilection.

*Father Faber*

*TWENTY-THIRD*

A cross loved is only half a cross because love sweetens everything. Happy the soul that suffers much and suffers in the proper spirit.

*Father de Leben, S.J.*

*TWENTY-FOURTH*

But if you partake of the sufferings of Christ, rejoice that when His glory shall be revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy.

*St. Peter*

*TWENTY-FIFTH*

You will find in the Sacred Heart of Jesus the remedy for your evils, strength in weakness and a refuge in all your necessities.

*Blessed Margaret Mary*

*TWENTY-SIXTH*

So long as one willingly accepts the evil one suffers it is no longer an evil.

*Fénelon*

*TWENTY–SEVENTH*

Look upon the Cross. . . . There is yet time to place the present under the shadow of our Saviour's outstretched arms of mercy, under the shelter of His Sacred Heart.

*Father Kane, S.J.*

*TWENTY–EIGHTH*

Look upon the Cross and learn to love the Friend who loved you first, for He loved you from eternity and who loved you most for He loved you unto the Cross.

*Father Kane, S.J.*

*TWENTY–NINTH*

Be glad, sad heart! 'tis well;
He made and He keeps love's promise,
With thee, all days to dwell.

. . . . . .

For the Heart that bled on Calvary
Still beats in the holy place.

*Father Ryan*

*THIRTIETH*

So, little by little, as we go through life, following with a hundred infidelities and a thousand blunders, with open defiance and secret sins, yet following as Peter followed through the glare of the High Priest's fire, to the gloom of penitence where Christ's eyes could shine — as we go, blinded by our sorrow, to the ecstacy of His joy . . . little by little we find that there is no garden in which He does not walk, no door that can shut Him out, no country road where our hearts cannot burn in His company.

*Mgr. Robert Hugh Benson*

# JULY

*FIRST*

AND rising up, he rebuked the wind, and said to the sea: Peace, be still. And the wind ceased: and there was made a great calm. And he said to them: Why are you fearful? Have you not faith yet?

*Mark* 4: 39–40

*SECOND*

Let us love our crosses; seen with the eyes of love, they are all of gold and though our Lord is dead there in the midst of nails and thorns, there is found in the cross a collection of precious pearls that will compose our crown of glory, if we courageously carry our crown of thorns.

*St. Francis de Sales*

*THIRD*

What one must put as a star above one's life, is duty, the perfecting of one's soul. What does it matter if one suffers, so long as one does good? What does it matter if one is drowned in a deluge of tears if only one advances in virtue? What does death itself matter, so long as one loves God and dwells in Him?

*Père Didon, O.P.*

*FOURTH*

Learn to suffer something for Jesus Christ without letting others perceive it.

*St. Teresa*

*FIFTH*

It is with our Saviour that we are nailed to the Cross and it is He who nails us to it by His grace.

*Fénelon*

*SIXTH*

As human love turns joy into pain and suffers in the midst of ecstasy, so Divine love turns pain into joy and exults and reigns upon the Cross.

*Mgr. Robert Hugh Benson*

*SEVENTH*

Jesus is gone before thee, carrying His cross, and He died for thee upon the Cross, that thou mayest also bear thy cross, and love to die on the Cross. Because if thou die with Him, thou shalt also live with Him; and if thou art His companion in suffering, thou shalt also partake in His glory.

*Imitation, B. 2, Ch.* XII

*EIGHTH*

Believe it with a firm faith, nothing in this world unites us more closely to God than that which detaches us from ourselves.

*Father de Ponlevoy, S.J.*

*NINTH*

Wish for nothing else here below but new humiliations and sufferings as rewards for your good deeds and hard work.

*St. John of the Cross*

*TENTH*

Nothing is done, nothing happens either in the material or the moral world, which God has not foreseen from all eternity, which He has not willed, or at least permitted.

*Father Henry Ramière, S.J.*

*ELEVENTH*

He who bears troubles with patience for God's sake will soon arrive to great perfection; he will be master of this world and will have one foot in the other.

*Blessed Egidius of Assisi*

*TWELFTH*

Do not fear to look upon the Cross. It is the Shadow of God's love which brings us sweetness through its sadness.

*Father Kane, S.J.*

*THIRTEENTH*

Hope not to enter into an intimate union with the God of sanctity, without first being sanctified by the Cross.

*Père Olier*

*FOURTEENTH*

But there is God
Every-everywhere
Beneath His rod
Kneel thee adown in prayer.

For grief is God's own kiss
Upon a soul.
Look up! the Sun of bliss
Will shine where storm clouds roll!

*Father Ryan*

*FIFTEENTH*

Sorrow and suffering are found everywhere, they are the daily bread of each of us. Happy those who know how to turn them to advantage. Such souls will be amply recompensed hereafter.

*Blessed Théophane Vénard*

*SIXTEENTH*

O Jesus how sweet is Thy hand even when You try me most! Let me be crucified, but crucified by Thee!

*General de Sonis*

*SEVENTEENTH*

We are here to suffer and the pain of the Cross must find us somewhere. People are so blind that they think suffering an evil and do not know its real and eternal value.

*Cardinal Vaughan*

*EIGHTEENTH*

It is the Cross that develops all the possibilities of human nature. But wherever it is present, God is there, watching to see that its pressure is neither too heavy nor too prolonged.

*Mother M. Loyola*

*NINETEENTH*

We are God's own creatures and God is our own God. All else will fail us but He never will. All is love with Him, love in light and love in darkness, love always and everywhere.

*Father Faber*

*TWENTIETH*

The privilege of suffering is perhaps the only advantage we have above the

angels. They may indeed be the companions of Our Lord, but they cannot be the companions of His death.

*Bossuet*

*TWENTY-FIRST*

We have but one thing to do here below; it is to throw to Jesus the flowers of little sacrifices and win Him by caresses.

*Sœur Thérèse*

*TWENTY-SECOND*

O to love! to go! to die to one's self! to reach God!

*St. Augustine*

*TWENTY-THIRD*

We must be kind towards suffering; it is a faithful and devoted friend that brings us true blessings; it gives us solid virtue, which detaches us from everything.

*Père de Ravignan, S.J.*

*TWENTY–FOURTH*

I try to make slowly my way of the Cross, and hope to be soon on the top of my Golgotha.

*Father Damien*

*TWENTY–FIFTH*

This is God's goodness that because in wealth we remember Him not but forget to pray to him, sendeth us sorrow and sickness to force us to draw towards Him, and compelleth us to call upon Him and pray for release of our pain.

*Blessed Thomas More*

*TWENTY–SIXTH*

Sorrow and sanctity are two sisters; tears and divine grace flow together from the same source and mingle their waters in a common stream.

*Abbé Henry Bolo*

*TWENTY–SEVENTH*

If we knew the precious treasure which is hidden in our infirmities, we would receive them with the same joy that we

receive the greatest benefits, and we would bear them without complaining.

*St. Vincent de Paul*

*TWENTY-EIGHTH*

The Cross can take the place of everything and nothing can take its place. He who suffers with patience has no need of any other means of salvation.

*Father Engelvin, Franciscan*

*TWENTY-NINTH*

If the most ignorant men know the burdens that their poor horses or asses are able to carry and do not put on too heavy a load for fear of overpowering them, we cannot possibly have reflected, or we should not dare to say, that God Who is wisdom itself, and Who loves us with an infinite love, lays upon our shoulders a weight that is too heavy, or leaves us too long in the fire of tribulations.

*St. Ephrem*

*THIRTIETH*

O my God! I adore thy incomprehensible and eternal designs, to which I submit with all my heart; I desire, I accept them all, and unite my sacrifice to that of Jesus Christ my divine Saviour.

*Venerable Father Pignatelli*

*THIRTY-FIRST*

Lead kindly light, amid the encircling gloom, lead Thou me on!
The night is dark and I am far from home,
Lead Thou me on!

. . . . . .

So long Thy power hath blest me, sure it still will lead me on,
O'er moor and fen, o'er crag and torrent, till
The night is gone;
And with the morn those angel faces smile
Which I have loved long since, and lost awhile.

*Cardinal Newman*

# AUGUST

*FIRST*

BE not therefore solicitous for tomorrow: for the morrow will be solicitous for itself. Sufficient for the day is the evil thereof.

*Matt.* 6:34

*SECOND*

Be patient in tribulation, fervent in prayer and fearless in labor.

*St. Francis of Assisi*

*THIRD*

Henceforth nothing can give me fear, neither wind or rain; and if great clouds hide from me the Light of Love, then will be the time of perfect joy, the time in which to push my confidence to its extreme limits . . . knowing that beyond

those clouds of sorrow my sweetest Sun is shining still.

*Sœur Thérèse*

*FOURTH*

What we suffer should be our own secret, this silence is pleasing to the Heart of Jesus.

*Venerable Mother Barat*

*FIFTH*

O surpassing loving kindness! Christ received the nails in His undefiled Hands and Feet, and endured anguish; while to me, without suffering or toil, by the fellowship of His pain, He vouchsafes salvation.

*St. Cyril*

*SIXTH*

"Greater love than this no man hath, that a man lay down his life for a friend." This was the Baptist's privilege. Let it be ours to suffer readily and cheerfully the trials incident to the daily faithful service of the Master.

*Father J. H. O'Rourke, S.J.*

*SEVENTH*

Do not look forward to the occurrences of this life with fear, but accept them with perfect confidence that, as they happen, God will perfect and deliver you.

*St. Francis de Sales*

*EIGHTH*

Drive away sadness far from thee; for sadness hath killed many and there is no profit in it.

*Eccles.* 30 : 24, 25

*NINTH*

Sorrow is life with an honest face. It is life looking what it is. Nevertheless there is the truest, the heavenliest of all joys in sorrow, because it detaches us from the world and draws us with such quiet, persuasive, irresistible authority to God.

*Father Faber*

*TENTH*

If we courageously face sufferings, difficulties vanish and even pain becomes delightful.

*St. Teresa*

*ELEVENTH*

I never understood so well before the importance of seizing hold of all the little occasions one has for suffering, as of precious coin to be found only on this side of the grave, and with which one can buy such treasures for hereafter.

*Mother Henrietta Kerr*

*TWELFTH*

How unhappy would I be, if I were not to suffer with Christ, since I am here below only to be purified by the Cross!

*Father de Leben, S.J.*

*THIRTEENTH*

God has pledged Himself to grant us not temporal but spiritual goods, goods necessary or conducive to our salvation; and when we see that God does not give them (the temporal favors) let us rest assured that He refuses them only because He loves us, and because He sees

that what we ask would, if He were to give them to us, redound to our spiritual injury.

*St. Alphonsus Liguori*

*FOURTEENTH*

My Lord and my Master! by Thy ardent love of Thy Heavenly Father, enable me to understand how affliction may intensify my love of God.

*Bishop Hedley*

*FIFTEENTH*

One must never consider whence crosses come; they come from God.

*Curé d'Ars*

*SIXTEENTH*

Love suffers and is resigned and the thoughts of Heaven grow more vivid as we get more detached from all on earth. Only a little more trust! A little more confidence in God! A little more patience and the end will come and the past weary years will seem as nothing.

*Blessed Théophane Vénard*

*SEVENTEENTH*

Nothing short of suffering, except in rare cases, makes us what we should be. And we may be quite sure that unless we chasten ourselves, God will chasten us.

*Cardinal Newman*

*EIGHTEENTH*

"Fear not" says Jesus to the timid, doubtful soul. "It is I, thy Saviour; I, thy light and thy salvation. Whom then canst thou fear? I am the protector of thy life. Of whom shalt thou be afraid? I am with thee. Fear not, it is I."

*Mgr. de la Bouillérie*

*NINETEENTH*

In God's present providence the real worth and the real beauty of life only reach their full freshness and fruitfulness when they have been sown in tears.

*Father Kane, S.J.*

*TWENTIETH*

For as God did more for poor Lazarus in helping him to die for hunger at the rich man's door, than if He had brought

him to the door all the rich man's dinner; so, though He be gracious to a man whom He delivereth out of painful trouble, yet doth He much more for a man if, through right painful death He deliver him from this wretched world into eternal bliss.

*Blessed Thomas More*

*TWENTY-FIRST*

With Christ death is harmonious and continuous with all that has gone before, since it is the final movement of a life that is already dead with Christ, the last stage of a process of mortality and the stage that ends its pain.

*Mgr. Robert Hugh Benson*

*TWENTY-SECOND*

Virtue and strength of soul grow and perfect themselves in ignominies, sufferings, affronts, sickness and even the dryness of soul which renders prayer bitter and painful. This is why you must not fear them, but love them with

courage as none of them can fail to bring us nearer to God.

*St. John of the Cross*

*TWENTY-THIRD*

O Lord my God, give me the unclouded faith that sees Thee and Thee alone in all that befalls me — in all events, in all joys and sorrows; in health and in sickness; in evil report and good report; in accidents, in disappointments, in weariness, in consolation, in interior trials.

*Mother M. Loyola*

*TWENTY-FOURTH*

Our Lord Jesus Christ himself was not one hour of His life without suffering . . . and dost thou pretend to seek another way than this royal way, which is the way of the Holy Cross?

*Imitation, B. 2, Chap. XII*

*TWENTY-FIFTH*

Woe to him who in the calmness of his heart can wish to die so long as he has

a sacrifice to make, a happiness to procure, needs to care for or tears to wipe away.

*Madame Swetchine*

*TWENTY-SIXTH*

The Lord is my Shepherd and I shall want nothing. Though I should walk in the midst of the shadow of death, I will fear no evils; for Thou, O Lord, art with me; and Thy mercy will follow me all the days of my life.

*Psalm 23*

*TWENTY-SEVENTH*

All the pleasures of the world, all the honey that can be gathered from the flowers of earth, are nothing in comparison with the sweetness which is caused by the gall and vinegar offered to Jesus Christ, that is, the hard and painful things endured for Jesus Christ and with Jesus Christ.

*St. Ignatius*

*TWENTY-EIGHTH*

Why should we repine at the tribulations we now endure in the battlefield of life, since they are the raw material of

future glory? And why should we murmur that we are not rewarded here? It is better to wait till the warfare of life is over, when our fellow citizens will greet us in our future home and the great King will give us an unfading crown.

*Cardinal Gibbons*

*TWENTY-NINTH*

We cannot quit the Cross without leaving Jesus Christ crucified. He and the Cross are inseparable.

*Fénelon*

*THIRTIETH*

Hardest servitude has he
That's jailed in arrogant liberty;
And freedom, spacious and unflawed,
Who is walled about with God.

*Francis Thompson*

*THIRTY-FIRST*

It is by getting into the habit of bearing the little troubles, daily difficulties and numberless thorns of life that we will become capable of true courage on grand occasions.

*Duchesne de Saint Léger*

# SEPTEMBER

*FIRST*

BLESSED are they who suffer persecution for justice's sake for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when men shall revile and persecute you and say all that evil against you untruly, for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: because your reward is very great in Heaven.

*Matt.* 5: 10, 11, 12

*SECOND*

The same God sanctified both Thabor and Calvary to make us understand the mysterious union that exists between ignominy and glory; they ought to be the same to us. We should remember that in consolation or temptation, God is ever the same being in our regard;

He is always a Saviour, always great, always powerful, always turned towards us with infinite love.

*Père de Ravignan*

*THIRD*

Whom the Lord loveth He chastiseth. God dealeth with you as with His sons: for what son is there, whom the father does not correct?

*St. Paul*

*FOURTH*

If we are in affliction, let us invoke Jesus, and He will console us. If we are tempted, let us invoke Jesus and He will give us strength to withstand all our enemies. If, lastly, we are in aridity and are cold in divine love, let us invoke Jesus and He will inflame our hearts.

*St. Alphonsus Liguori*

*FIFTH*

Mourning in the order of Providence is a call to holiness. Broken hearts are

prepared to receive God, just as hearts who receive God, being too small, must break.

*Mgr. Henry Bolo*

*SIXTH*

It was after the Christ had wept over Jerusalem that He uttered some of His most august words; it was when His soul had been sorrowful unto death that His enemies fell prostrate before His voice. Who suffers conquers.

*Francis Thompson*

*SEVENTH*

Rejoice often in the Lord your salvation and remember that it is profitable to suffer with resignation all the trials of life for a God who has suffered so much for us, and with so much love.

*St. John of the Cross*

*EIGHTH*

As the flowers grow among thorns, so divine love increases better in the midst of tribulation than in the midst of comfort.

*St. Francis de Sales*

*NINTH*

Do thine own pleasure. Surely, Lord,
Thou art full free to come and go,
To lift my sorrow by a word
Or pierce me with a sudden sword,
And leave me sobbing in my woe.

*Mgr. Robert Hugh Benson*

*TENTH*

The Cross is my sure salvation. The Cross I ever adore. The Cross of my Lord is with me. The Cross is my refuge.

*St. Thomas Aquinas*

*ELEVENTH*

Life has many bitter, sad and weary hours, often it can scarcely be called existence. The little rivulets as well as the great rivers, all empty themselves into one source — the sea. God is an ocean of love and mercy. In Him alone is the fulness of joy. Patience and courage then! A little while and we shall be with Him.

*Blessed Théophane Vénard*

*TWELFTH*

When God wishes to sanctify a soul, He separates it from the world by trials, and persecutions . . . He sends it infirmities, disease, interior trials which detach it and purify it from self love as tempests purify the atmosphere.

*Père Eymard*

*THIRTEENTH*

Nothing can happen but that which God pleaseth; and what that is, though it should seem evil to us, it is truly the best.

*Blessed Thomas More*

*FOURTEENTH*

Jesus offers you a Cross, a very heavy cross and you are fearful lest you should weaken under it. Why? Did not our Beloved fall three times on the road to Calvary? Why should we not imitate our Heavenly Spouse?

*Sœur Thérèse*

*FIFTEENTH*

Is any of you sad? Let him pray.

*St. James the Great*

*SIXTEENTH*

My God, I unite my sacrifice to that of Jesus Christ, my divine Saviour; I ask in His Name, and through His infinite merits, patience in my trials, and perfect and entire submission to all that comes to me by Thy good pleasure.

*Venerable Giuseppe Maria Pignatelli, S.J.*

*SEVENTEENTH*

God's arms are more closely folded round us in interior trials than in the sensible sweetness of His consoling visitations.

*Father Faber*

*EIGHTEENTH*

He who is wronged and persecuted would rejoice rather than grieve if he reflected that Our Lord thus gave him an opportunity of acquiring more grace in a single day than perhaps he would in ten years by self chosen labors.

*St. Teresa*

*NINETEENTH*

Set thyself then, like a good and faithful servant of Christ, to bear manfully the Cross of thy Lord, crucified for love of thee.

*Imitation, B. 2, Chap. XII*

*TWENTIETH*

Fear not therefore . . . any trouble that may come upon you, if trouble be God's will; trouble will but prove the simplicity of your devotion to Him. When our Lord walked on the sea, Peter went out to meet him, and "seeing the wind strong he was afraid." Doubt not that He, who caught the disciple by the hand, will appear to rescue you; doubt not that He who could tread the billows so securely can, self-sustained, bear any weight your weakness throws upon Him, and can be your immovable refuge and home amid the tossing and the tumult of the storm.

*Cardinal Newman*

*TWENTY-FIRST*

O good Master! I come to be crucified with Thee . . . and as I cannot see a single portion of Thy body sound, I wish to carry on every side of me the marks of Thy sufferings, that I may one day be clothed with Thy glorious resurrection.

*St. Bernard*

*TWENTY-SECOND*

While depriving you of creatures, the Lord wishes that His dear Son should hold the place of all persons and things to you.

*Père Olier*

*TWENTY-THIRD*

By how much the more a man dies to himself, by so much more he lives to God.

*St. Catherine of Siena*

*TWENTY-FOURTH*

O Jesus! You are my true Friend, my only Friend. You take a part in all my misfortunes, You take them on yourself, You know how to change them into blessings.

*Venerable Claude de la Colombière, S.J.*

*TWENTY-FIFTH*

Who is there without a Cross? Happy the souls that know how to appreciate those which Jesus presents to them in order to draw them more closely to Himself.

*Father Barelle*

*TWENTY-SIXTH*

He who wishes to keep his love for Jesus Christ ought always to represent Him to himself hanging on the Cross, and dying there for love of us.

*St. Bonaventure*

*TWENTY-SEVENTH*

O Lord! O Love divine!
Once more I follow Thee!
Let me abide so near Thy side
That I Thy face may see.

I clasp Thy pierced Hand,
O Thou Who diest for me!
I'll bear Thy Cross through pain and loss,
So let me cling to Thee.

*Father Ryan*

*TWENTY–EIGHTH*

Earthly life is full of sadness; the more the heart is loving and religious the more susceptible it is to inexpressible melancholy; it is an exile on this earth and feels it at each step . . . and it calls with anguish for the Infinite and the Eternal.

*Père Didon*

*TWENTY–NINTH*

Tribulations endured for the sake of Jesus Christ ought to be counted among God's greatest blessings.

*St. Ignatius*

*THIRTIETH*

Fear not, for He is near Who loves you, Who loves you always and Who loves you most.

*Father Kane, S.J.*

# OCTOBER

*FIRST*

AND bearing his own cross, He went forth to that place which is called Calvary, but in Hebrew Golgotha.

*John* 19 : 17

*SECOND*

Holy Virgin, have pity on those who loved each other and have been separated. Have pity on loneliness of heart. Have pity on the weakness of our faith. Have pity on those we love. Have pity on those who weep, on those who pray, on those who fear, give to all hope and peace. Amen.

*Abbé Perreyve*

*THIRD*

Without struggle we should have no crown. Without sorrow we should have

no sympathy. Without trust in trial we should never have the peace or glory of love that has been proven and is triumphant.

*Father Kane, S.J.*

*FOURTH*

Our joy depends upon the Cross, and Our Lord would not enter into His glory save by the way of bitterness. He leads you by the same path as the saints. Do not shrink from it, I beseech you, but be patient, yield to Him, ask Him to follow His will and not yours.

*St. Vincent de Paul*

*FIFTH*

A great temporal trial is certainly intended by God to be used by us for a spiritual gain.

*Cardinal Vaughan*

*SIXTH*

Good Lord, give me grace in all my fear and agony, to have recourse to that great fear and wonderful agony that Thou, my sweet Saviour, hadst at the

Mount of Olivet before Thy most bitter passion, and in the meditation thereof to conceive ghostly comfort and consolation profitable to my soul.

*Blessed Thomas More*

(*Prayer after having been condemned to death*)

*SEVENTH*

We ought to accept illness as a gift from our Creator and God, for it is no less a gift than health.

*St. Ignatius*

*EIGHTH*

"Fear not," does He say to the just soul, "it is I, I, who try thee sometimes, it is true, but only to increase thy merit; I who chasten thee often because I love thee; I who in Heaven will be thy reward exceeding great. Fear not, It is I." . . . What could be a more unshaken support, a stronger assurance of safety, amid the dangers by which we are surrounded, the trials to which we are exposed, than this pledge of His love, this promise of His abiding presence among us.

*Mgr. de la Bouillérie*

*NINTH*

There is no sign more certain that one is of the number of the elect than, while leading a christian life, to be the subject of sufferings, desolation and trials.

*St. Louis Gonzaga*

*TENTH*

Let us follow Jesus Christ carrying His Cross and painfully climbing the mountain of Calvary. Let us accompany Him with Mary, the holy women and Simon the Cyrenean.

*Père Eymard*

*ELEVENTH*

Peace here below consists, not in being free from tribulations, but in the acceptation of them.

*Fénelon*

*TWELFTH*

How good it is to be with Jesus crucified! I will make three tabernacles here: one in His hands, another in His feet, and a third in the wound of His side where I may watch and repose, read and sleep, pray and do everything.

*St. Bonaventure*

*THIRTEENTH*

Oh! I am glad to come to Thee
My only rest,
To lay my weary head awhile
Upon Thy breast,
To bring the burden of my grief
Hither to Thee,
And feel, O Jesus, Son of Man,
Thy sympathy.

*Mother M. Loyola*

*FOURTEENTH*

Believe then, O children of the new alliance! that when God sends you afflictions, He wishes to break the bonds which attach you to the world and to recall you to your true country.

*Bossuet*

*FIFTEENTH*

It is only the devil and his followers who ought to be sad; we, on the contrary, should always rejoice in the Lord.

*St. Francis of Assisi*

*SIXTEENTH*

Let us not speak ill of the Cross, it has been sent to us to warn us, to detach us from the earth, to lead us to our end. Let us leave it only to cast ourselves into God. We have much need of suffering, let us suffer well.

*Père de Ravignan*

*SEVENTEENTH*

Truly since God is able and understands how to draw good from evil, for whom will He be disposed to do so, if not for those who give themselves unreservedly to Him.

*St. Francis de Sales*

*EIGHTEENTH*

My God, I thank Thee for having given me a glimpse of the sweetness of Thy consolation. I thank Thee for having deprived me of them. All Thou doest is good and just. I bless Thee in my indigence. I desire nothing except that Thy will be done.

*General de Sonis*

*NINETEENTH*

What is a Christian if he cannot submit to an affront for Christ's sake? When you are injured, smile at the injuries you receive.

*St. Alphonsus Liguori*

*TWENTIETH*

The dead do not come back again. There were figures in the picture once which are missing now. The years rob us as they pass. One by one men and things are missing. God alone is never missing.

*Father Faber*

*TWENTY-FIRST*

Never would God permit us to suffer if the mystery of our salvation could have its source elsewhere than in the mystery of our sufferings. Nowhere can the good Shepherd find His lost sheep but in that hedge of thorns which is called trial.

*Abbè Henry Bolo*

*TWENTY–SECOND*

I desire, O Lord, to live here always conformed to your Passion, and to find pain and suffering my repose and delight.

*St. Catherine of Siena*

*TWENTY–THIRD*

How little worthy of My love thou art!
Whom wilt Thou find to love ignoble thee,
Save Me, save only Me?

*Francis Thompson*

*TWENTY–FOURTH*

I rejoice with exceeding great joy in the midst of my tribulations. I am as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as needy, yet enriching many, as having nothing, yet possessing all things.

*St. Paul, Romans*

*TWENTY–FIFTH*

We shall probably discover that we owe a heavier debt of gratitude to God for the trials we have endured than for the

comforts we have enjoyed. For how many more are drawn towards Him by sufferings than by consolations!

*Cardinal Gibbons*

*TWENTY-SIXTH*

I know a fountain where, after having drunk one still thirsts, but with a very sweet thirst which one can always satisfy; this fountain is the suffering which is known to Jesus only.

*Sœur Thérèse*

*TWENTY-SEVENTH*

The real means of obtaining what we need from God is to ask Him, not what we wish for, but what He wishes for us.

*St. John of the Cross*

*TWENTY-EIGHTH*

In the Cross is infusion of heavenly sweetness, in the Cross is strength of mind, in the Cross joy of spirit, in the Cross the height of virtue; in the Cross the perfection of sanctity. There is no

salvation of the soul, nor hope of everlasting life, but in the Cross.

*Imitation, B 2, Chap. XII*

*TWENTY-NINTH*

The Son of God has accomplished our salvation by means of sufferings. He would by this teach us that there is no means more proper to glorify God and to sanctify our souls than to suffer.

*St. Teresa*

*THIRTIETH*

Mass itself hardly "shows the Lord's death" more clearly than suffering that is received for His sake.

*Mgr. Robert Hugh Benson*

*THIRTY-FIRST*

"My Saviour! I cheerfully accept all the painful dispositions in which it is Thy pleasure to place me. My wish is in all things to conform myself to Thy Holy will. Whenever I kiss Thy Cross, it is to show that I submit perfectly to mine.

*Blessed Margaret Mary*

# NOVEMBER

*FIRST*

IT behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise again from the dead, and so to enter into His glory.

*St. Luke* 24: 46

*SECOND*

Let mourners weep and show their grief; let them find consolation in tears: but let them not forget to come, with still greater zeal, to the aid of the departed, by the Holy Sacrifice, by prayer and almsdeeds.

*St. Chrysostom*

*THIRD*

Such too is the Christian's slumber under the sign of the Cross, which the world calls death. Ah! look behind the veil, it is not death but slumber. Softly close your eyes: the angels are around

folding their white wings about you and whispering, lullaby. Your Mother is standing there straight in front of you looking at you with her smile so sweet, bidding you sleep. Do you know that gentle hands are on your brow, hands that were pierced by nails, lovingly closing your eyelids? Look up once before you sleep, and at your head, guarding you strongly and well, see your smiling Saviour. Sleep gently, sleep; it is not death but slumber. Oh! the awakening! you are at home! At home forever with Christ and His dear Mother. For ever at home in their sweet home!

*Father Kane, S.J.*

*FOURTH*

There are other afflictions which God permits of His goodness, because they preserve those who suffer them from greater misfortunes. Some make their purgatory here, in sickness, poverty and adversity, and thus avoid far greater pains.

*Blessed Henry Suso*

*FIFTH*

O good Cross — that from the dear Body of my Lord didst gain becomingness and grace; O well beloved Cross, O long desired, O tenderly cherished Cross. . . . Faithfully I have sought thee. . . . Now at last, made ready for my eager soul, do thou sweet Cross, take me from the midst of men and bring me to my Master that by thee, dear Cross, He may receive me, Who by thee did redeem me.

*St. Andrew*

*SIXTH*

Those who die in grace go no further from us than God, and God is very near.

*Father Russell, S.J.*

*SEVENTH*

Are you visited by the Cross? Welcome it as a friend; you will find in it a wellspring of spiritual blessings. Are you bent upon winning a soul? Suffer for it.

*Venerable Mother Barat*

*EIGHTH*

By our resignation in suffering, we shall so expiate our sins here, that the fire of Purgatory will find little material to feed upon hereafter.

*St. Augustine*

*NINTH*

Why shouldst thou fear the beautiful angel, Death
Who waits thee at the portals of the skies. . . .

. . . . . .

He whom thou fearest will, to ease its pain
Lay his cold hand upon thy aching heart:
Will soothe the terrors of thy troubled brain,
And bid the shadow of earth's grief depart.

*Adelaide Procter*

*TENTH*

Oh! after a weary life is there still to be another weary waiting for our deliverance and our rest? If we must burn, let it be with the fire of love now, not with the fires of chastisement hereafter.

*Father Faber*

*ELEVENTH*

Give me, good Lord, a longing to be with Thee, not for the avoiding of the calamities of this wretched world, nor so much for the avoiding of the pains of purgatory nor the pains of hell either, nor so much for the attaining of the joys of heaven in respect to my own commodity, as even for a very love of Thee.

*Blessed Thomas More*

*TWELFTH*

If thou carry the Cross willingly it will carry thee, and bring thee to thy desired end; to wit, to that place where there will be an end of suffering, though here there will be none.

*Imitation, B 2, Chap. XII*

*THIRTEENTH*

No, I will not prefer one thing to another, a thousand times no, because that would be my will and I only wish to do God's will. I suffer, I am in tribulations. What do I care? It is God's

will being accomplished in me. I am hurt, crushed, never mind! God wills it, I will it too. I accept, I see but one thing, God's will.

*Père de Ravignan*

*FOURTEENTH*

The least pain we may have to suffer in Purgatory is much greater than any pains we can imagine as possible in this world.

*St. Anselm*

*FIFTEENTH*

The School of Suffering is the School of Christ and happy they who study in it.

*Cardinal Vaughan*

*SIXTEENTH*

For though I should walk in the midst of the shadow of death I will fear no evil for Thou art with me. Thy rod and thy staff have comforted me. Thou hast prepared a table for me against them that afflict me. Thou hast anointed my head with oil, and my chalice which inebriateth me, how goodly it is!

*Psalm 22*

*SEVENTEENTH*

It is too great an honor, O King of Glory to drink with Thee the chalice of sorrow; may it never happen to me to refuse this draught, because, O God, says David, it is the beverage of thy beloved.

*St. Francis de Sales*

*EIGHTEENTH*

Pray! yes, pray! for God is sweet —
O my God! woe are we!
When we kneel down at His feet —
Woe are we! Woe are we!
With our crosses and our cares.
He will calm the tortured breast,
He will give the troubled rest —
And the dead he watchest best.

*Father Ryan*

*NINETEENTH*

Let us leave our dear Lord and Master to direct our future; our only business is to strive to correspond with His grace as far as we possibly can.

*Blessed Théophane Vénard*

*TWENTIETH*

When we suffer we can make known our pain. But the souls in Purgatory cannot speak. We do not know what they suffer. Let us try to relieve them.

*Mother Margaret*
*of the Most Blessed Sacrament*

*TWENTY-FIRST*

God does us great honor when He is pleased that we should tread the same road which was trodden by His only begotten Son.

*St. Paul of the Cross*

*TWENTY-SECOND*

One tear of the heart over the Passion of our blessed Lord! How much fire of purgatory has it the power to quench.

*Father Faber*

*TWENTY-THIRD*

Death is the beautiful moment of human life.

*Père Lacordaire*

*TWENTY–FOURTH*

Let us, with Purgatory in view, suffer with joy, or at least with patience, all the evils, the misfortunes, and the trials of this life.

*St. Augustine*

*TWENTY–FIFTH*

The gate of death, viewed from the supernatural side, is an entrance and not an ending, a beginning and not a close. Death, when he comes, draws not only the survivors closer together, but even those whom he seems to have separated. He does not bring consternation and terror and disunion, but he awakens hope and tenderness, he smooths away old differences, he explains old misunderstandings.

*Mgr. Robert Hugh Benson*

*TWENTY–SIXTH*

What a privilege from Jesus! How much He must love us to send us such great grief! . . . Let us be more than resigned, let us embrace the Cross with joy.

*Sœur Thérèse*

*TWENTY-SEVENTH*

For death is but a tenderness,
A shadow, that unclouded Love
Hath fashioned in its own excess
Of radiance from above.

*Father Tabb*

*TWENTY-EIGHTH*

Indeed, the behavior of this adorable Providence towards those whom it has determined to admit most quickly, after this life, to the possession of eternal happiness is to purify them in this world by so much the greater sufferings and trials.

*St. Ignatius*

*TWENTY-NINTH*

Let us conclude then that persons afflicted with scruples are the most favored by divine love and the surest to arrive to heaven.

*Blessed Henry Suso*

*THIRTIETH*

Which of the dead have avoided hell? Those and those only, who on earth took up their cross.

*Father Faber*

# DECEMBER

*FIRST*

N the world ye shall have distress. But have confidence. I have overcome the world."

*John* 16 : 33

*SECOND*

Shall we who gave Him that heavy Cross to bear, and kept weighting it after we had given it as if our cruelty were not satisfied, refuse to bear the sweet, grace-giving crosses which He binds on us, so little too, as when we have borne them for awhile we are forced to confess they are.

*Father Faber*

*THIRD*

Aim rather at abject and difficult things than at those which are easier and more brilliant. Welcome generously

all manner of sufferings for the love of Jesus Christ and be persuaded that in loving Him thus, one receives ineffable consolations.

*St. John of the Cross*

*FOURTH*

My Lord and my Master, Thou didst suffer and suffer far more than this. To Thee suffering was familiar, Thou didst choose it for Thy lot and Thy inheritance and I, I dread and refuse it! By Thy loving acceptance of pain give me the courage to accept all I have to suffer.

*Bishop Hedley*

*FIFTH*

Do not lose your time. Do not refuse one fragment of the cross. Go to the place on Calvary where God wills you to be. Pray and ask that God's sovereign will may be accomplished.

*Père Didon*

*SIXTH*

And our dim eyes ask a beacon, and our weary feet a guide,
And our hearts of all life's mysteries seek the meaning and the key;

And a cross gleams o'er our pathway —
on it hangs the Crucified
And He answers all our yearnings by the
whisper, "Follow me."

*Father Ryan*

*SEVENTH*

Hence I am determined to leave all to Thee, taking no part therein save by keeping myself in peace in Thy arms, desiring nothing except as Thou incitest me to desire, to will, to wish.

*St. Jane Frances de Chantal*

*EIGHTH*

Our Lord never asks of us a sacrifice which is above our strength. But sometimes it is true He makes us feel all the bitterness of the Chalice which He presents to our soul.

*Sœur Thérèse*

*NINTH*

One "Blessed be God" in the time of adversity is worth more than "I thank you" said a thousand times in prosperity.

*St. John of Avila*

*TENTH*

What are those heavy rains of tribulation that fall upon us but the refreshing waters that quicken and revive the seed of faith in our soul, and make it grow into fruit of sanctification.

*Cardinal Gibbons*

*ELEVENTH*

When adversity tries us, it enlightens the soul with superior light, it detaches us from earth and rouses us to seek a higher dwelling in Heaven, it takes from us every wish which has not Jesus, and Jesus Crucified, for its object, Whose grace fastens us to the Cross now, that we may afterwards rise with Him.

*St. Ignatius*

*TWELFTH*

My God! all that Thou dost will, as Thou dost will, and because Thou dost will it.

*Mother Margaret*
*of the Most Blessed Sacrament*

*THIRTEENTH*

Ah! God tries us only that we may attain perfection and this for the holiest and noblest end that can be conceived, His own honor and glory.

*Father de Leben, S.J.*

*FOURTEENTH*

All suffering is bearable when one suffers with Jesus Christ. Suffering! what does it matter? . . . it lasts but a minute.

*Curè d'Ars*

*FIFTEENTH*

God wist that it was nothing meet the servant to stand in better condition than his Master. And therefore would He not suffer, that while He came to His own Kingdom not without travail and pain, His servants should be slothful and sit and pick their nails, and be carried up to Heaven at their ease; but biddeth every man that will be His disciple or servant take up his cross upon his back and therewith come and follow Him.

*Blessed Thomas More*

*SIXTEENTH*

Be strong to bear, O heart!
Nothing is vain:
Strive not, for life is care,
And God sends pain;
Heaven is above and there
Rest will remain.

*Adelaide Procter*

*SEVENTEENTH*

How happy is the soul which says: "Here I am, Lord. Do as it pleases Thee with me and all that is mine."

*St. Teresa*

*EIGHTEENTH*

O Jesus, you listen to me with the greatest kindness when I relate my troubles to you, and you have always balm to pour on my wounds. I find You everywhere. You never go away.

*Ven. Claude de la Colombière*

*NINETEENTH*

Yet all our peace in this miserable life is rather to be placed in humble suffering than in not feeling adversities. He who

knows how to suffer will enjoy much peace. Such a one is conqueror of himself, and lord of the world, a friend of Christ and heir to Heaven.

*Imitation, B 2, Chap. IV*

*TWENTIETH*

Let us commit the success of our efforts to God, and be ready to accept failure if God judges it more suitable to His designs and more profitable to our souls.

*Father Ramière, S.J.*

*TWENTY-FIRST*

The Cross engenders no sadness, nay, it gives joy when it is carried with patience and filial submission.

*Mgr. Dupont of Tours*

*TWENTY-SECOND*

He bids you take up your cross; therefore accept the daily opportunities which occur of yielding to others, when you need not yield, and of doing unpleasant services, which you might avoid. Learn to master your heart when it would burst forth

into vehemence, or prolong a barren sorrow, or dissolve into an unseasoned tenderness.

*Cardinal Newman*

*TWENTY–THIRD*

Lord, increase my sufferings and with them increase Thy love in my heart.

*St. Rose of Lima*

*TWENTY–FOURTH*

The soul that loves God burns with the desire to please Him; but as long as its actions cost it but little it feels that it is accomplishing nothing for the Beloved. The loving heart desires to suffer for the Beloved One, and hence the exquisite joy of sacrifice.

*Abbè A. Sandreau*

*TWENTY–FIFTH*

Let us therefore live and die with the One who has come to show us the true way to Heaven and let us fear nothing unless it be not to finish our sacrifice on the same altar as He did His.

*Fènelon*

*TWENTY–SIXTH*

The humiliations of the Cross are sweet to a soul which is sensible of what she owes to Him Who was crucified for the love of her.

*St. Bernard*

*TWENTY–SEVENTH*

Let us place all our trust in Jesus alone, whatever contrary sensible impressions may arise. Relying on this foundation, it is no presumption to feel ourselves stronger than earth and hell; and the greater the confidence, the more it honors Jesus Christ, and the more it desposes His goodness to succor us in all our needs.

*Father Surin, S.J.*

*TWENTY–EIGHTH*

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation. Who comforteth us in all our tribualtion, that we also may be able to comfort those who are in any distress by the exhortation wherewith we also are exhorted by God.

*St. Paul*

*TWENTY-NINTH*

I do not lean on my own strength, but on the strength of Him Who, on the Cross, has vanquished the powers of hell.

*Blessed Théophane Vénard*

*THIRTIETH*

Be assured that we shall obtain more grace and merit in one day by suffering patiently the afflictions which come to us from God or from our neighbor than we could acquire in ten years by mortification and other exercises which are of our own choice.

*St. Francis de Sales*

*THIRTY-FIRST*

God will not perish and we are with God. Let the Christ sleep, on the sea, in the storm! Believe! He is the Divine Giver of your life! Trust! He is the Human Lover of your soul. Let the Christ sleep! In His own good time He will arise and bring back to our tempest tossed hearts a great calm.

*Father Kane, S.J.*

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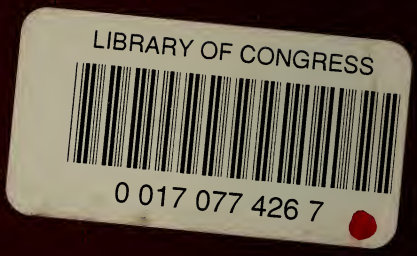
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